



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Hampton declares local emergency; state officials to tour storm damaged areas

The City of Hampton is declaring a local emergency for the areas affected by Friday's tornado. At this time, we do not expect to reach the damage levels required for state or federal aid.

Secretary of Public Safety Marla Decker and Michael Cline, state coordinator of emergency management, will tour Hampton today to meet with local officials and view damage from last Friday's tornado.

City crews are still working to clean up public areas. Seventeen crews collected 49 truckloads of debris in affected areas on Saturday. Fourteen crews collected 49 loads on Sunday.

Today crews are out on normal collection routes, and an additional 11 crews are in affected areas collecting debris. On Tuesday crews will be out on normal collection routes, with additional trucks in affected areas. Wednesday is normally not a collection day, but all crews will be in and working in affected areas as needed.

The City is recommending that permit fees for people repairing tornado damage be waived. City Council will take a formal vote at their next meeting.

People interested in helping victims of the tornadoes can make financial contributions to local charities and faith-based organizations that are responding to the situation or to the Virginia Disaster Relief Fund at <http://www.disasterfund.virginia.gov/>.

People in the affected areas who have questions or special needs should call emergency management at 727-1208. Groups who want to help with cleanup can also call that number.

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